

The District 9 Report

with Councilman Joe Krier



"Working together, we can make District 9 and our City a better place for everyone."

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Greetings!

We've made good progress recently on increasing City efforts to contain the spread of oak wilt.

Many of you have reached out to your District 9 office to share your concerns about the tree-killing fungus, and we've listened. Indeed, we have the same concerns. Like other homeowners, I'd hate to think of my yard as a wasteland of dead trees.

The difficulty with oak wilt, frankly, has been how little public attention it has received. Typically, people either have never heard of the disease or don't view it as a pressing issue - unless it's invaded their neighborhood. But we've made some headway recently in raising awareness about oak wilt.

In a Council Consideration Request, with the support of four Council colleagues, I outlined a program to combat oak wilt. The steps include:

- Changing the City's brush-collection schedule to avoid pickups between Feb. 1 and July 1. Springtime is when fungal mats are most likely to form on oaks and sap beetles, which spread oak wilt, are most active, according to the Texas A&M Forest Service. Experts agree: Avoid tree trimming during that time period.
- Studying other cities' responses to oak-wilt infestation. In Texas, these include Austin, Dallas, Fort Worth, Waco, Odessa, and Midland.
- Initiating a much stronger public-awareness campaign on the dangers of oak wilt and treatment methods. This information, for example, could be included with CPS Energy and SAWS bills.
- Working closely with the Texas A&M Forest Service, and partnering with Bexar County to fund an additional arborist to focus on this problem. The arborist's tasks should include carefully mapping oak-wilt "hot spots" in our County, information that would be posted on the City's and the County's websites.

I'm working on an ordinance soon that incorporates all of these measures and improves our current practices.

We have to act before oak wilt gets the better of our neighborhoods. Working together, I believe we can slow its progress.

Sincerely,



[Click here to send us an email](#)

City Resources and
Apps

Click on the following links
to access
community resources



Sincerely,

Joe Krier

Pressing Ahead on Making School Zones Safer

District 9 endured another tragedy when 12-year-old Mailani Godin was struck and killed April 7 by a vehicle as she crossed West Avenue during morning rush hour. She was walking with friends to Eisenhower Middle School.

A little more than two years ago, 9-year-old Tatyana Babineaux was also struck and killed on her way to school. That was on Braesview, not far from West Avenue and Mount Tipton, where Mailani was struck.

I vowed then to press the City to make school zone crossings safer for our children, and we've made good progress. In District 9, the City has made improvements to 94 school zone crossings since the accident that took the life of Tatyana.

But we have much more work to do in District 9 and across the city to make our streets safer for children and adult pedestrians, cyclists, drivers, and passengers.

For more on how we can accomplish this goals, please [click here to read an Express-New guest column](#) that I co-wrote with District 5 Councilwoman Shirley Gonzales, who has been a leader on what's known as the Vision Zero initiative.



Remembering Fallen Police Officers

Last Friday, the San Antonio Police Department held its annual SAPD Police Officer Memorial Day to honor and pay our respects to the 57 officers killed in the line of duty. It's a somber event that reminds us of the dangers our outstanding first-responders often face to keep us safe.

Please keep these fallen officers in your thoughts and prayers -- as well as the officers who patrol our streets today and the firefighters who put out the fires and provide our EMS service.



It's Time to 'SpeakUp' about Next Year's Budget

The #SASpeakUp campaign asks San Antonio residents to share their ideas about what they would like to see included in the City's Fiscal Year 2017 budget. The City is taking the campaign out into the community by deploying street teams at various community-wide events to gather input in an effort to reach more people in more places.



City Council members debate priorities for the 2015-2016 budget.

| DATE | TIME | EVENT NAME | EVENT LOCATION |
|-----------------|-------------------|--|---|
| May 6, 2016 | 6-9 p.m. | First Friday | Frank Restaurant, 1150 S. Alamo Street |
| May 7, 2016 | 9 a.m.- Noon | Pearl Farmer's Market | The Pearl Brewery, 303 Pearl Parkway |
| May 12, 2016 | 5:30-7:30 p.m. | Westside Story | Mission Marquee, 3100 Roosevelt Ave |
| May 13, 2016 | 11 a.m.-2 p.m. | District 4 / Port San Antonio Heroes 5K - packet pickup | Port San Antonio, Main Entrance |
| May 14, 2016 | Noon-3 p.m. | Conjunto Festival | Rosedale Park, 340 Dartmouth Street |
| May 19, 2016 | 5-7 p.m. | LOOP Mega Mixer | San Antonio Museum of Art, 200 W Jones Ave |
| May 22, 2016 | 1-3 p.m. | The Block Food Truck Park - Sunday Brunch | The Block, 14530 Roadrunner Way |

In addition to in-person outreach, the City offers a quick, two-question survey available in English and Spanish at SASpeakUp.com, where community members can also share ideas with City staff, learn more about City services and try an interactive budget balancing simulator. Residents can also utilize social media to speak up about their priority services using the hashtag #SASpeakUp.

"The City budget reflects the community's priorities, so we need residents to speak up to tell us what is important to them," said City Manager Sheryl Sculley. "Last year, residents told us they wanted more money for streets and sidewalks, and we listened by recommending \$45 million more in the 2016 budget."

Additionally, the City has partnered with the University of Texas at San Antonio to gather responses from residents in all 10 Council districts who complete a scientific survey online. This partnership will result in statistically significant data that will be presented to City Council in June during a budget goal-setting session.

Each year, City staff works with residents and City leaders to ensure the City's annual Operating & Capital Budget is financially balanced and reflects the priorities of the community. As a result of feedback gathered in 2015 for the FY2016 budget, City Council adopted a budget that increased spending on street maintenance by \$23 million. There are 832 projects planned and, as of April 22, 392 have been completed. The Transportation and Capital Improvements department is on track to complete all projects by the end of the fiscal year.

The City's budget is a roadmap for policy and overall direction. Each year, the City is required by law to pass a balanced budget. Now it's your turn, District 9... SpeakUp!

Honoring Students Who Devote Time to Their Community

I had the privilege Monday of speaking to group of roughly 100 Reagan High School students who received Presidential Volunteer Service Awards for their many hours of volunteer work to make ours a better City.



I always enjoy talking with young people, and this was a special joy for me. The kids I shook hands with as they crossed the stage will be our leaders in the not-too-distant future. But they are already examples for all of us.



Apply to Serve on a District 9 Board or Commission

I encourage interested District 9 residents to apply for a board or commission appointment by filling out an application on the City Clerk's page ([click here](#)).

There is a wealth of experience and talent all across our District that would greatly benefit our city.



We have two open seats on:

San Antonio Youth Commission

Please apply today.

In Your Community

Adopt-a-Spot

You can help keep San Antonio beautiful by adopting a spot to clean up.

Adopt-a-Spot groups are a great way for businesses, neighborhood associations, volunteer groups and civic groups to make a difference by picking up trash and improving the area.

Click [here](#) for more information on the Adopt-a-Spot program.



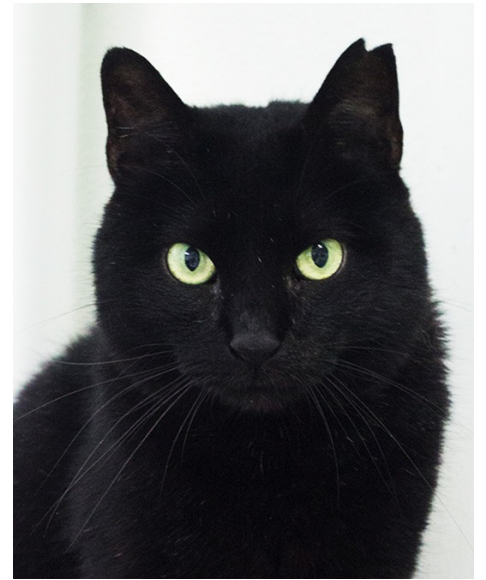
Java with Joe

Our District 9 Java with Joe events continue on Wednesdays from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. in our field office at 16500 San Pedro Ave, Suite 290 .

If you have a problem or issue and would like an appointment during that time, please call our District 9 office at (210)207-0955.

Hi, I'm Lilac

I am a girl with a beautiful raven coat. It is very soft, and I am learning more and more how nice it is to have it petted by a friendly person like you! I am not very used to people just yet, but the more I meet them, the more I realize how kind and loving they can be. I have learned that having my ears and chin scratched is a good thing! I will need a quiet forever home with a patient family who is willing to help me learn about love and friendship. If that sounds like you, please come and meet me today!



Lilac is neutered, micro-chipped and up on all of her vaccinations. She's waiting to meet you at the Animal Defense League, located at 11300 Nacogdoches Road, San Antonio, 78217. Or visit her pet profile on ADL's website at www.adltexas.org.

ADL PET ID# A22023529

BREED: Domestic Shorthair, Mixed

SEX: Female

AGE: 3 years, 2 months

WEIGHT: 8 lbs

Want to Adopt a Pet? Have Questions?

Animal Care Services Department

Phone: 210.207.4PET (4738)

Address: 4710 State Highway 151

San Antonio, TX 78227

Adoption Center Hours:

Monday - Friday: 11:00 am - 7:00 pm

Saturday/Sunday: 11:00 am - 5:00 pm

Pet Drop-Off Hours: (Based on space availability)

E-mail ACS Intake to begin pet drop-off process

Tuesday - Friday: 11:00 am - 6:45 pm

Saturday: 11:00 am - 4:45 pm

Sunday/Monday: CLOSED

